

PRESS RELEASE

Congressman John Conyers, Jr.

**Fourteenth District, Michigan
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
Dean, Congressional Black Caucus**

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CONYERS BLASTS JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S FAILURE TO APPOINT ENRON SPECIAL COUNSEL

“For an Administration that came to town promising to restore ‘honor and dignity,’ this is a dramatic departure from the norms of ethical behavior”

Congressman John Conyers, Jr., Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee issued the following statement in connection with the Department of Justice’s refusal to appoint a special counsel to investigate Secretary of the Army Thomas White, the former high ranking Enron executive accused of insider trading:

“For an Administration that came to town promising to restore ‘honor and dignity,’ this is a dramatic departure from the norms of ethical behavior. In particular, the Department has failed to point to a single post-Watergate incident where an Administration investigated one of its own high ranking officials where there was a substantial and credible allegation of wrongdoing, as is clearly the case with respect to Secretary White.

More than one half year after the Enron scandal broke and tens of thousands of hard working Americans lost their life savings due to corporate greed, the Administration has little to show for its investigation. Shockingly, we have not seen a single indictment involving a single Enron executive, the parties at the core of the scandal. It is time for this Administration to admit that it cannot objectively investigate its own high ranking political appointees, and has a blind spot when it comes to investigating President Bush’s best political friends.”